



MI-CW2709

Michigan Crop Weather

July 6, 2009

Cool & Damp

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 5, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.11 inches in the south west Lower Peninsula to 0.90 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 6 degrees below normal in the eastern Upper Peninsula, and central Lower Peninsula to 8 degrees below normal in the northwest, southwest, and south central Lower Peninsula. Warm temperatures early in the week helped crop development while the cooler temps later in the week was not helpful to crop growth; some growth was experienced and crop growth stages were still behind. Lighter soils were beginning to stress and could use a light rain. Spraying began in many areas across the State for corn and soybeans. One grower reported, “Corn and soybeans are looking better but need rain very soon at this critical time of development. Wheat looks to be one of the best crops in several years. The recent dry weather has helped producers put up dry hay.”

Field Crops

Warmer temperatures early in the week, combined with wet, cooler temperatures later in the week, continued crop progression. **Wheat** continued to turn yellow in many other areas of the State. A south central reporter stated, “Wheat looks to be one of the best crops in several years.” **Oats**, **barley** and **soybean** development progressed. Oats enjoyed the cooler temperatures. However, soybeans have not reached their rapid growth spurt. **Corn** progression and side-dressing continued. In some of the northern areas of the State, corn did not reach ankle height by July 4. **Alfalfa** harvest continued. In some areas, harvest was impeded due to random bouts of rain. In the southeast, a second cutting of alfalfa may begin next week. **Sugarbeets** were progressing, slowly. According to Michigan Sugar, the replanted acres were due to an overabundance of moisture. Re-plantings of **dry beans** continued where necessary.

Fruit

Apples were 1.75 inches in diameter in the southwest and ranged from 23 to 28 mm in the northwest. Apple scab infections expected to increase with the recent round of rainfall. **Blueberries** were 13 mm in diameter in the southeast; harvest of early varieties began in the southwest. **Peaches** ranged from 1.75 inches in the southeast to 2 inches in diameter in the southwest; growers were thinning fruit in the west central. **Pears** ranged from 21 to 26 mm in diameter in the northwest and 1.125 inches in the southeast. **Plums** were 1 inch in diameter in southern Michigan and 19 mm in the northwest. In the southeast, growers were preparing to harvest summer red and black **raspberries**; fall red raspberries ranged from 24 to 30 inches in length. Sawfly damage was evident. **Strawberry** harvest was in full swing in the northwest; renovation began in the southwest. **Sweet cherries** ranged from 17 to 19 mm in the northwest, while harvest was underway in the southwest. Brown rot and cherry leaf spot infections were a concern. **Tart cherries** were coloring in the southwest; they were 14 mm in the northwest. Vinifera **grape** bloom ended in the southwest; juice grapes were close to berry touch in the northwest.

Vegetables

Most vegetable crops benefitted from warmer, drier conditions early in the week. Across the State, producers were harvesting **pickles**, **yellow squash**, **zucchini** and **cabbage** in fields that were under row tunnels while more fields were coming into production. Growers kept busy scouting fields for cucumber beetles and downy mildew. Early planted **sweet corn** was tasseling last week, while in the Grand Rapids area, some fields were silking. Producers continued to monitor for European corn borer and corn earworm. **Tomatoes** grown under low tunnels had mature green fruit and were nearly ready for harvest. Non-tunneled tomatoes have been tied twice, while some were on their third tie, showing 1.5 to 2.0 inch fruit. In the south, **potato** fields were in full bloom, and **peppers** were flowering; early planted peppers have set fruit. In the southwest, **watermelon** and **cantaloup** were flowering and developing runners; fruit was softball-size. **Eggplant** growth had improved with the warmer conditions, but slowed as temperatures cooled at week’s end. On muck soils, **radishes** not hurt by the flooding were progressing well and **celery** continued progressing toward maturity. A few celery producers began harvest this week. **Onions** began bulb initiation and expansion. In the east central region, **cole crops** continued to make good progress this week with relatively little pest pressure. In the west central region, **asparagus** harvest was complete in all but a few fields.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/05/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	3	17	70	10
Subsoil	2	10	79	9

Crop condition for week ending 07/05/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	7	22	51	19
Corn	2	5	26	53	14
Dry beans	3	9	41	41	6
Oats	0	2	26	59	13
Pasture	1	5	35	44	15
Soybeans	2	6	29	51	12
Winter Wheat	1	5	23	56	15

Crop progress for week ending 07/05/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Corn, height	26	18	30	32
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, first cutting	82	76	85	90
All hay, second cutting	13	4	16	18
Blueberries, harvested	8	0	5	3
Dry beans, emerged	95	63	83	91
Oats, headed	85	55	87	88
Oats, turning yellow	15	1	9	15
Soybeans, blooming	6	3	18	10
Strawberries, harvested	76	46	77	85
Tart cherries, harvested	3	0	6	20
Winter wheat, turning yellow	71	39	87	90

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/05/09 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	73	45		709	673		0.26	0.61	1.96	7.65		
Marquette	75	45		599	625		0.26	0.61	1.96	7.66		
Stephenson	81	45		807	845		0.08	0.23	0.97	8.88		
Western UP	81	39	-7	680	679	748	0.24	0.59	2.01	7.93	9.75	3.42
Cornell	77	45		734	740		0.20	0.28	0.79	6.82		
Sault St Marie	71	44		600	624		0.56	1.22	2.45	7.54		
Eastern UP	77	44	-6	604	636	599	0.90	1.19	2.03	8.64	9.23	3.19
Beulah	79	48		855	911		0.98	1.13	2.23	9.62		
Lake City	79	43		823	898		0.80	0.99	2.17	10.96		
Old Mission	77	44		766	851		1.09	1.50	2.29	6.20		
Pellston	76	36		733	844		0.47	1.03	1.84	5.35		
Northwest	79	36	-8	767	840	871	0.73	1.03	1.85	7.32	8.78	2.99
Alpena	79	45		769	876		0.89	1.33	3.00	9.25		
Houghton Lake	79	39		815	930		0.23	0.48	1.67	9.61		
Rogers City	76	47		776	822		0.44	0.71	2.13	8.76		
Northeast	79	39	-7	790	892	832	0.46	0.72	2.23	9.10	8.71	3.18
Fremont	81	50		952	1,008		0.16	0.23	2.13	8.86		
Hart	79	51		887	921		0.51	0.53	3.17	12.15		
Muskegon	76	51		1,007	963		0.30	0.30	2.13	9.44		
West Central	81	49	-7	937	955	973	0.51	0.53	2.47	10.54	9.23	2.54
Alma	80	51		959	1,064		0.31	0.47	3.57	13.36		
Big Rapids	75	51		959	1,042		0.31	0.31	3.18	9.92		
Central	80	50	-6	955	1,045	1,030	0.30	0.38	3.09	10.68	9.72	2.97
Bad Axe	79	49		844	1,011		0.59	0.96	3.52	10.66		
Pigeon	79	47		845	984		0.75	0.86	3.97	10.86		
Saginaw	80	50		968	1,112		1.00	1.15	4.24	11.77		
Standish	81	45		871	967		0.56	0.77	3.76	10.26		
East Central	81	45	-7	856	1,032	1,010	0.76	1.07	4.11	11.41	8.71	2.92
Fennville	77	51		1,009	995		0.08	0.43	4.54	12.56		
Grand Rapids	80	53		1,118	1,171		0.17	1.25	5.64	14.25		
Holland	79	55		1,174	1,159		0.14	0.30	9.05	19.60		
South Bend, IN	80	55		1,222	1,232		0.09	0.10	5.83	12.25		
Watervliet	79	52		1,097	1,113		0.10	0.20	4.00	11.35		
Southwest	81	51	-8	1,111	1,131	1,108	0.11	0.28	4.52	12.46	10.53	3.09
Belding	79	48		962	1,045		0.20	0.26	2.89	10.70		
Coldwater	82	52		1,149	1,127		0.15	0.15	4.25	12.85		
Lansing	82	53		1,028	1,147		0.30	0.31	4.27	15.15		
South Central	82	48	-8	1,039	1,118	1,105	0.20	0.30	4.18	12.92	10.35	3.22
Detroit	81	55		1,175	1,258		0.16	0.58	5.09	13.26		
Flint	80	49		1,020	1,197		0.53	0.53	6.84	14.84		
Romeo	81	51		1,002	1,100		0.50	3.18	5.86	10.20		
Tipton	81	54		1,089	1,151		0.10	0.15	3.78	11.92		
Toledo, OH	84	53		1,215	1,238		0.07	0.30	3.30	11.52		
Southeast	84	47	-7	1,080	1,173	1,074	0.25	0.65	4.16	11.56	10.00	3.11

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.